

# HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 339

By DuBois

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Major Don Geving for meritorious service to the youth and citizenry of Tennessee

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is proud to honor those educators and members of the Armed Forces whose commitment to the youth of this nation can only be categorized as outstanding; and

WHEREAS, the Naval Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (NJROTC) is a character education program with the mission of developing leadership and citizenship in students in grades 9-12; the military environment is the vehicle that is used to teach the essential qualities that are necessary to excel as a citizen and as a leader; and

WHEREAS, the staff and faculty of Columbia Central High School have demonstrated a desire to help today's youth by working with and supporting the school's NJROTC unit; and

WHEREAS, one such exemplary faculty member is Major Don Geving, Senior Naval Science Instructor of the NJROTC and retired officer of the United States Marine Corps; and

WHEREAS, Major Geving has been an enthusiastic and crucial part of the NJROTC program at Columbia Central High School since July 2001; as the senior member, he has taken the lead in coordination, fundraising, and serving as liaison; and

WHEREAS, during this period he has provided exceptional guidance and accountability to over 500 Cadets enrolled in the NJROTC program and has helped cadets in all areas of developmental growth; and

WHEREAS, never accepting the status quo, he has sought out many additional outside activities throughout the school year and summer months which provide cadets opportunities to stimulate hands-on learning and competition and to reinforce classroom instruction, such as

leadership and military training, drill teams, rifle teams, academic teams, orienteering, unit athletics, canoe trips, and State Capitol visits; and

WHEREAS, as a result of Major Geving's superb leadership, his NJROTC Unit elicits community pride and enjoys widespread community support, having themselves supported the community in Coat Drives, Adopt-a Family programs, and numerous volunteer roles; and

WHEREAS, pursuing all possible funding alternatives, Major Geving has spearheaded fund drives which have raised over \$200,000, allowing all eligible students to participate in extra-curricular activities and extended trips without charge; and

WHEREAS, as a result of his inspiration and guidance, past Columbia Central NJROTC Unit cadets have attended the Naval Academy, Air Force Academy, Naval Academy Prep School, Citadel, Virginia Military Institute, University of Tennessee, University of Memphis, Middle Tennessee State University, and Tennessee Tech University; thirty-five members have enlisted in the armed services, three have been student body Presidents, three have been class Presidents, four have been Eagle Scouts, and several more have been cheerleaders and athletic team members; and

WHEREAS, his depth of intellect, memory, and unique ability to articulate military requirements and instill pride in his students, along with his sensitivity to students' special needs enable Major Geving to be superbly effective with students, parents, fellow teachers, and all organizations within Columbia and Maury County; and

WHEREAS, Major Geving tirelessly devotes himself to supporting his students' academic, personal, and career pursuits, serving as mentor as well as teacher; his contributions will long outlive his tenure; and

WHEREAS, this body is pleased to recognize Major Don Geving for his dedication to Columbia Central High School's NJROTC program and its continuing service to this State and its citizenry; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Major Don Geving upon his outstanding

service to the youth and citizenry of the State of Tennessee and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.